

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended): An image forming apparatus, comprising:
  - image forming stations for respective colors arranged along an intermediate transfer belt, each said image forming station including an image carrier;
  - a charging means and a developing means disposed around said image carrier;
  - a housing body in which said image forming stations and said intermediate transfer belt are situated;
  - a support frame for supporting a driving roller and a driven roller ~~rollers~~ around which said intermediate transfer belt is laid with some tension;
  - an image density detecting means which is arranged to face said intermediate transfer belt; and
  - a locking means, disposed on the side of said driven roller, for locking said support frame to the housing body;

wherein said support frame is attached to the housing body such that the support frame is detachable relative to the housing body by means of pivotal movement; and

wherein said image density detecting means is connected to the support frame, in proximity to said locking means.

2. (original): An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said transfer belt is a paper carrying belt.

3. (original): An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said transfer belt is an intermediate transfer belt.

4. (currently amended): An image forming apparatus, comprising:

image forming stations for respective colors arranged along an intermediate transfer belt, each said image forming station including an image carrier;

a charging means and a developing means disposed around said image carrier;

a housing body in which said image forming stations and said intermediate transfer belt are situated;

a support frame for supporting a driving roller and a driven roller rollers around which said intermediate transfer belt is laid with some tension;

an image density detecting means which is arranged to face said intermediate transfer belt;

wherein said support frame is attached to the housing body such that the support frame is detachable relative to the housing body by means of pivotal movement; and

wherein said image density detecting means is connected to the support frame, in proximity to one of said driving rollers which is the nearest to the pivot of said support frame.

5. (original): An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein said transfer belt is a paper carrying belt.

6. (original): An image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein said transfer belt is an intermediate transfer belt.